

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 015119
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 H-01 L-03 SCS-03
/034 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TCA/MA:CTAYLOR,JR.:BST
APPROVED BY EB/TCA/MA:CTAYLOR,JR.
EA/IMS:WSSHEPARD
SCA/SCS:RBELT (SUBS)

-----241653Z 024193 /44

P R 241551Z JAN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 015119

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, SN

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN SINGAPORE VESSEL

1. SENATOR SPARKMAN'S OFFICE HAS CONTACTED DEPARTMENT CONCERNING PROBLEM ONE OF HIS CONSTITUENTS, DISCO ALUMINUM PRODUCTS OF SELMA, ALA., HAS EXPERIENCED WITH A SINGAPORE-FLAG SHIP.

2. DISCO HAS CONTRACT TO SUPPLY DOLLARS 2 AND 1/2 MILLION ORDER OF ALUMINUM WINDOW FRAMES TO SAUDI ARABIA. WINDOW FRAMES WERE SHIPPED FROM U.S. IN NOVEMBER 1976 ON SINGAPORE-FLAG VESSEL QUOTE NEPTUNE TURQUOISE UNQUOTE,

OWNED BY NEPTUNE ORIENT SHIPPING COMPANY AND CHARTERED TO SCIMITAR LINES (APPARENTLY A SMALL COMPANY OF UNDETERMINED NATIONALITY). CARGO WAS SCHEDULED TO BE OFFLOADED IN
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PAGE 02 STATE 015119

DECEMBER BUT DUE TO PORT CONGESTION, LOCAL AUTHORITIES RESCHEDULED DELIVERY FOR JANUARY 26.

3. IN INTERIM, SCIMITAR LINES DEFAULTED ON CHARTER PAYMENTS TO NEPTUNE ORIENT AND IS EXPECTED TO DECLARE BANKRUPTCY THIS WEEK. SUBSEQUENT TO SCIMITAR'S DEFAULT, NEPTUNE ORIENT GAINED CONTROL OF VESSEL AND ITS CARGO, WHICH IS

STILL SOMEWHERE IN RED SEA AREA. DISPOSITION OF
CARGO CURRENTLY UNDER NEGOTIATION BETWEEN ATTORNEYS FOR
NEPTUNE ORIENT AND FREIGHT FORWARDER (UNSWORTH AND CO.
OF NEW YORK).

4. DISCO ALUMINUM PRODUCTS IS CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT IF
CARGO IS NOT UNLOADED AS SCHEDULED ON JANUARY 26, OR SOON
THEREAFTER, IT WILL LOSE ITS SIZEABLE CONTRACT WITH
SAUDI ARABIA.

5. ACTION REQUESTED. SENATOR SPARKMAN'S OFFICE HAS GAINED
IMPRESSION FROM ATTORNEYS INVOLVED THAT NEPTUNE ORIENT
COMPANY IS OWNED BY SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT AND FOR THAT
REASON APPROACHED DEPARTMENT. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO
ASCERTAIN IF NEPTUNE ORIENT IS IN FACT GOS-OWNED AND TO
PROVIDE DEPARTMENT WITH ANY OTHER AVAILABLE INFORMATION
ON CASE ASAP. IF NEPTUNE ORIENT IS GOS-OWNED, EMBASSY
REQUESTED TO DISCUSS CASE WITH GOS AUTHORITIES AND EXPRESS
USG INTEREST IN EXPEDITIOUS RESOLUTION OF CARGO DISPOSITION
PROBLEM -- UNLESS EMBASSY BELIEVES SUCH DISCUSSIONS WOULD
BE INAPPROPRIATE.

6. FYI. DISCO HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH A MR. SETNA AT
NEPTUNE ORIENT, SINGAPORE TELEPHONE 222-3311. END FYI.

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PAGE 01 STATE 015119
ORIGIN EB-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-02 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: EB/TCA/MA:CTAYLOR,JR.:BST

APPROVED BY: EB/TCA/MA:CTAYLOR,JR.

-----250328Z 028483 /70

R 242056Z JAN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN 6006

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 015119

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 015119 ACTION SINGAPORE INFO

JIDDA 24 JAN 1977.

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 015119

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, SN

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OWNED BY NEPTUNE ORIENT SHIPPING COMPANY AND CHARTERED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 015119

SCIMITAR LINES (APPARENTLY A SMALL COMPANY OF UNDETERMINED NATIONALITY). CARGO WAS SCHEDULED TO BE OFFLOADED IN DECEMBER BUT DUE TO PORT CONGESTION, LOCAL AUTHORITIES RESCHEDULED DELIVERY FOR JANUARY 26.

3. IN INTERIM, SCIMITAR LINES DEFAULTED ON CHARTER PAYMENTS TO NEPTUNE ORIENT AND IS EXPECTED TO DECLARE BANKRUPTCY THIS WEEK. SUBSEQUENT TO SCIMITAR'S DEFAULT, NEPTUNE ORIENT GAINED CONTROL OF VESSEL AND ITS CARGO, WHICH IS STILL SOMEWHERE IN RED SEA AREA. DISPOSITION OF CARGO CURRENTLY UNDER NEGOTIATION BETWEEN ATTORNEYS FOR NEPTUNE ORIENT AND FREIGHT FORWARDER (UNSWORTH AND CO. OF NEW YORK).

4. DISCO ALUMINUM PRODUCTS IS CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT IF CARGO IS NOT UNLOADED AS SCHEDULED ON JANUARY 26, OR SOON THEREAFTER, IT WILL LOSE ITS SIZEABLE CONTRACT WITH SAUDI ARABIA.

5. ACTION REQUESTED. SENATOR SPARKMAN'S OFFICE HAS GAINED IMPRESSION FROM ATTORNEYS INVOLVED THAT NEPTUNE ORIENT COMPANY IS OWNED BY SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT AND FOR THAT REASON APPROACHED DEPARTMENT. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN IF NEPTUNE ORIENT IS IN FACT GOS-OWNED AND TO PROVIDE DEPARTMENT WITH ANY OTHER AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON CASE ASAP. IF NEPTUNE ORIENT IS GOS-OWNED, EMBASSY REQUESTED TO DISCUSS CASE WITH GOS AUTHORITIES AND EXPRESS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARINE TRANSPORTATION, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 24-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CTAYLOR,JR.:BST
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770025-0349
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770124/aaaaautg.tel
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Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3520165
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN SINGAPORE VESSEL
TAGS: EWWT, SN, US, NEPTUNE ORIENT, DISCO ALUMINUM PRODUCTS
To: SINGAPORE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fc152bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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